Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05
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R 090330Z MAY 77 FM AMEMBASSY KABUL TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2409 INFO US MISSION GENEVA 0508

CONFIDENTIAL KABUL 3213

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: SNAR, UN, AF SUBJ: NARCOTICS: INTERNATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTED IN AFGHANISTAN

REF: A. GENEVA 3407 B. KABUL 2770

1. WE APPRECIATE COMMENTS CONTAINED IN REF A EXPRESSING MISSION GENEVA'S RESERVATIONS REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE.

2. IN OUR ASSESSMENT, HOWEVER, THE POTENTIAL ADVANTAGES INHERENT IN ESTABLISHING THE COMMITTEE, AND OF U.S. PARTICIPATION, OUTWEIGH THE DISADVANTAGES CITED IN REF A. IN OUR OPINION, THE COMMITTEE PER SE WAS NEVER VIEWED AS A MAJOR FACTOR IN THE EXADICATION OF POPPY PRODUCTION IN AFGHANISTAN, RATHER IT WAS AND IS LOOKED UPON AS A MEANS TO GET A MULTILATERAL PROGRAM UNDERWAY, AND AS A DEVICE TO BE USED BY US TO FOCUS THE ATTENTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN (GOA) ON THE PROGRESS (OR LACK THEREOF) AND NEED FOR A NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM. AS POINTED OUT IN REF B, WE URGED THE GOA TO INVITE PARTICIPATION IN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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COMMITTEE BY OTHER COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, BUT WE FEEL THAT WITHOUT FORCE-FUL U.S. BACKING, LITTLE, IF ANYTHING, WILL BE ACHIEVED BY THE GOA ON ITS OWN. MOREVER, WE WOULD HOPE THAT OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMITTEE WOULD EXPEDITE RATHER THAN HINDER LIAISON WITH, AND THE FLOW OF INFORMATION TO, THE UNFDAC

OFFICER CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PREPARING PROJECTS FOR AFGHANISTAN.

3. THUS, WHILE WE SHARE CERTAIN OF MISSION GENEVA'S RESERVATIONS CONCERNING THE OVERALL IMPACT OF THE COMMITTEE, WE AT THE SAME TIME RETAIN A CERTAIN OPTIMISM THAT IT CAN REPRESENT THE INITIAL STEP IN GETTING A PROGRAM UNDERWAY, AND THEREAFTER COULD CONCEIVABLY SEERVE A USEFUL PURPOSE IN OVERCOMING THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH ARE MOST ASSUREDLY GOING TO CROP UP. ELIOT

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Message Attributes

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